DC
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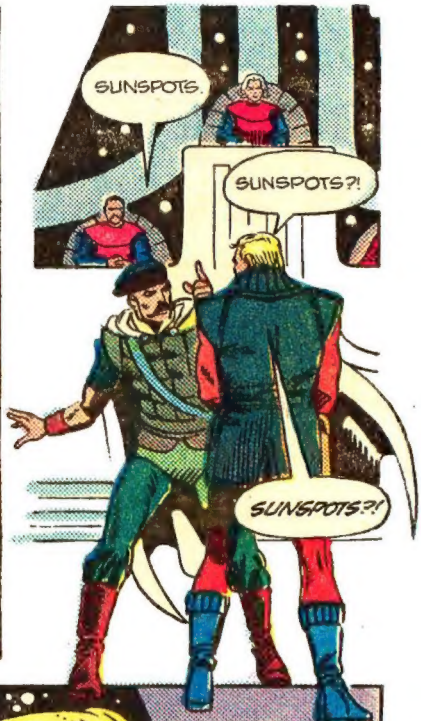
MUST WE HARP ON THIS DARK DESTROYER NONSENSE? HE'S JUST TRYING TO CLOUD THE ISSUE.
SENATOR JAMIESON, PLEASE. YOUR CHANCE WILL COME.
WHAT PROOF, PROFESSOR?

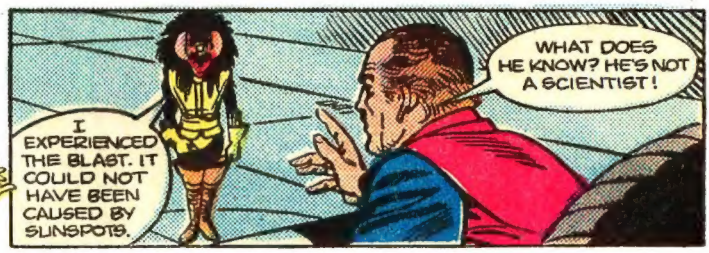
THE RIPPLE EFFECT! EVEN HERE YOU MUST HAVE REGISTERED A FREAK FLUCTUATION IN ALL YOUR INSTRUMENTS.


SUNSPOTS.
SUNSPOTS?!
SUNSPOTS?!

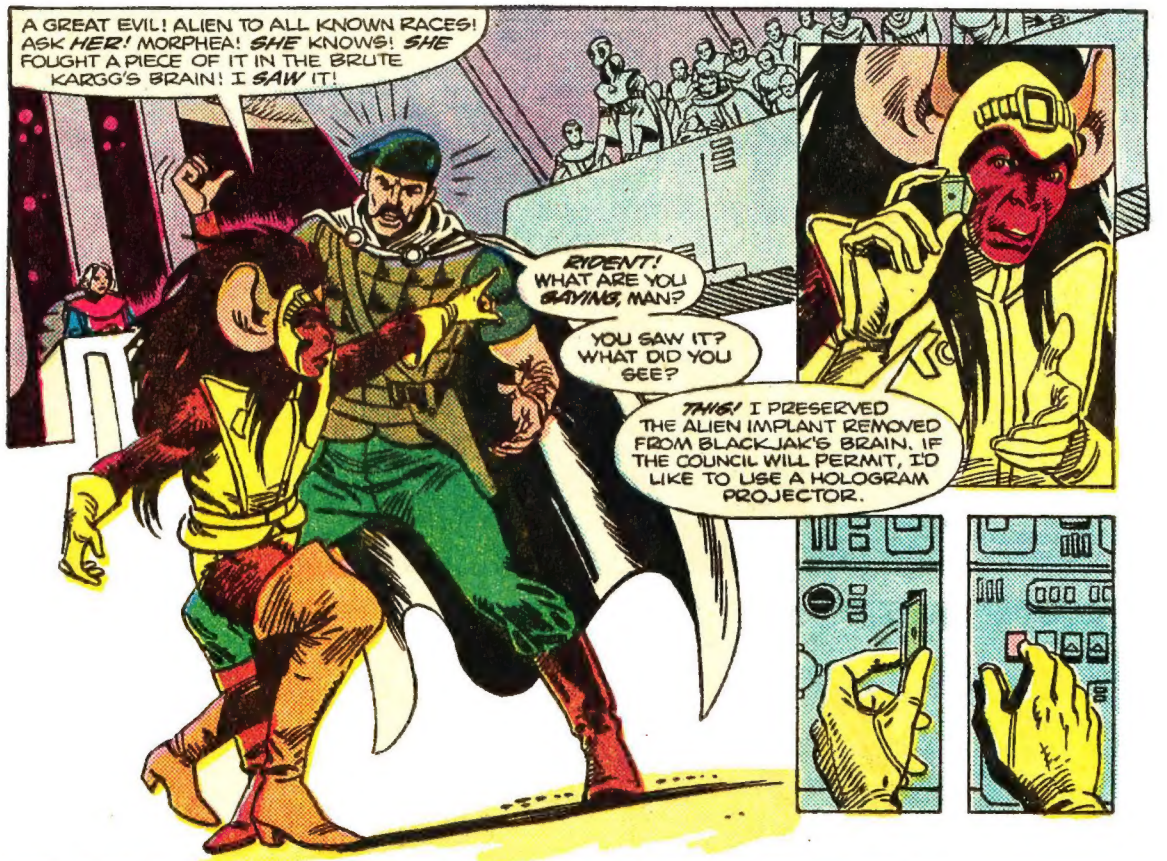
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU BLOODY CROOK! YOU THINK WE'RE STUPID?!
I KNOW YOU'RE STUPID. YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME -- ASK OFFICER RIDENT WHETHER THE DARK DESTROYER WAS REAL OR NOT!
THAT'S ENOUGH! HUNTER, SIT DOWN! IT'S TRUE, WE DON'T KNOW THE SOURCE OF THIS MYSTERIOUS RIPPLE EFFECT, BUT WE ONLY HAVE YOUR WORD AS TO ITS ORIGIN.

OFFICER RIDENT, CAN YOU THROW ANY LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT?

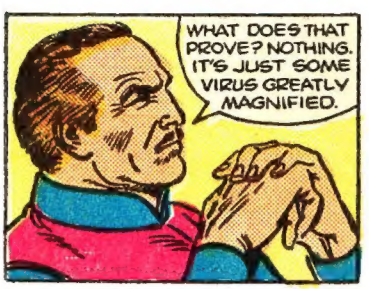
JUSTICE TOVAH, I HAVE TO ADMIT... I SAW THINGS WE CANNOT EXPLAIN UNDER THE CONVENTIONAL SCIENCE...


I EXPERIENCED THE BLAST. IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY SUNSPOTS.
WHAT DOES HE KNOW? HE'S NOT A SCIENTIST!

LATER, ON SCANNER ONE, THERE WAS A PRESENCE...
WHAT KIND OF PRESENCE?


A GREAT EVIL! ALIEN TO ALL KNOWN RACES! ASK HER! MORPHEA! SHE KNOWS! SHE FOUGHT A PIECE OF IT IN THE BRUTE KARGG'S BRAIN! I SAW IT!
RIDENT! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, MAN?
YOU SAW IT? WHAT DID YOU SEE?
THIS! I PRESERVED THE ALIEN IMPLANT REMOVED FROM BLACKJAK'S BRAIN. IF THE COUNCIL WILL PERMIT, I'D LIKE TO USE A HOLOGRAM PROJECTOR.

THERE. THAT IS WHAT I SAW. MONSTROUS. A PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION OF THEIR TERRIBLE MENTAL CONFLICT.


WHAT DOES THAT PROVE? NOTHING. IT'S JUST SOME VIRUS GREATLY MAGNIFIED.

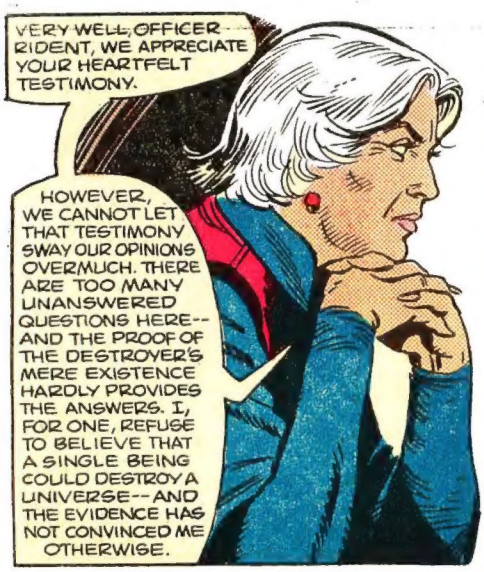
HMM. ACCORDING TO YOUR REPORT, KARGG WAS THE DESTROYER'S CHIEF LIEUTENANT.
THAT'S RIGHT.

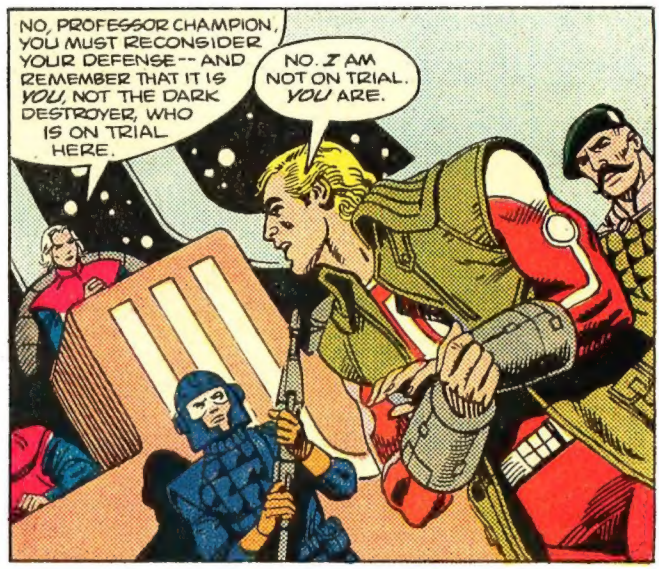
YOUR HONOR, OFFICER RIDENT IS SUFFERING FROM EXTREME STRESS!

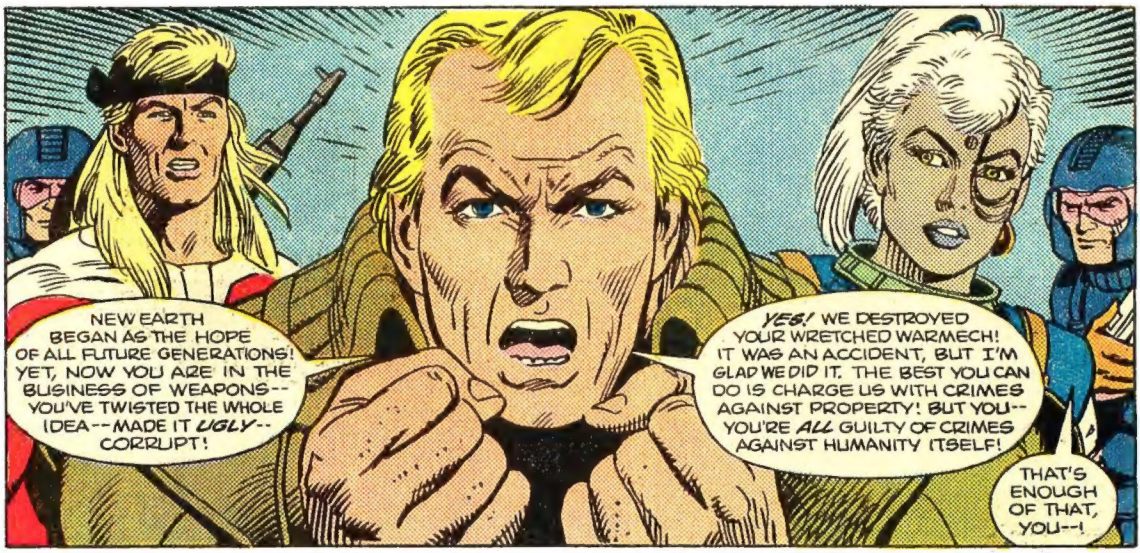
MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT CHAMPION MAY SOMEHOW HAVE AFFECTED OFFICER RIDENT'S MIND?

YOU MAY NOT. THIS COURT CAN FUNCTION WITHOUT YOUR KEEN INSIGHTS, HUNTER.
I MUST INSIST THAT YOU KEEP SILENT.

JUSTICE TOVAH--YOU'VE SEEN MY PROOF--THE DESTROYER DID EXIST--PERHAPS HE DOES STILL.
IN MY HEART, I KNOW THIS. THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.







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18 HOT BOOKS TO MAKE THE SUMMER SIZZLE!

WARLORD ANNUAL #4 FIRESTORM ANNUAL #3
LEGION OF SUBSTITUTE HEROES SPECIAL #1
BATMAN ANNUAL #9 DC PRESENTS ANNUAL #4
NEW TEEN TITANS ANNUAL #1 LOSERS SPECIAL #1
SWORD OF THE ATOM SPECIAL #2
INFINITY, INC. ANNUAL #1 ARION SPECIAL #1
BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS ANNUAL #2
SUPERMAN ANNUAL #11 VIGILANTE ANNUAL #1
LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES ANNUAL #3
OMEGA MEN ANNUAL #2 JLA ANNUAL #1
BLUE DEVIL ANNUAL #1 STAR TREK ANNUAL #1

DC COMICS. WHERE LEGENDS LIVE.

MY DREAMS OF NEW EARTH AS A FORCE FOR PEACE-- THE HOPE OF FUTURE GENERATIONS-- ARE ALL FINISHED. NOW, IN THE SPACE OF A FEW MONTHS, WE'VE BECOME NOTHING MORE THAN A GLORIFIED ARMS MERCHANT.

I'M SURE IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT YOU WERE VOTED OFF THE BOARD DURING YOUR MONTHS OF ABSENCE.

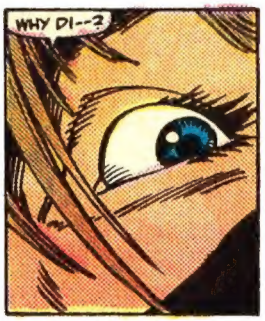
LUCAS AND I FOUGHT THEM TOOTH AND NAIL. SENATOR JAMIESON IS IN CONTROL NOW. THE FIRST THING THEY DID WAS SEIZE YOUR LAB AND ALL THE RECORDS.

I'M NOT SURPRISED. I ONLY WISH THEY'D *LOOK* AT THOSE RECORDS. *STUDY* THEM. THEN THEY MIGHT BELIEVE.

YOU BELIEVE ME, DON'T YOU?

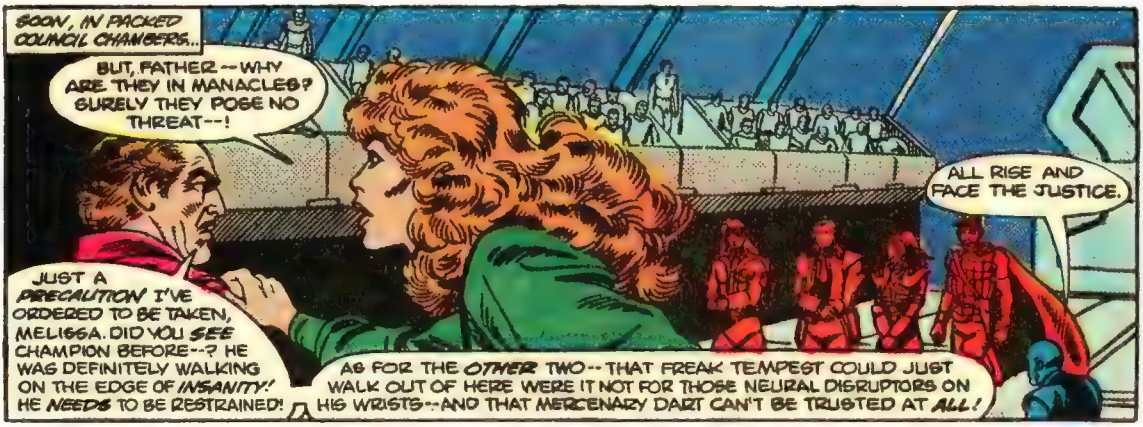
OF COURSE, MARTIN.

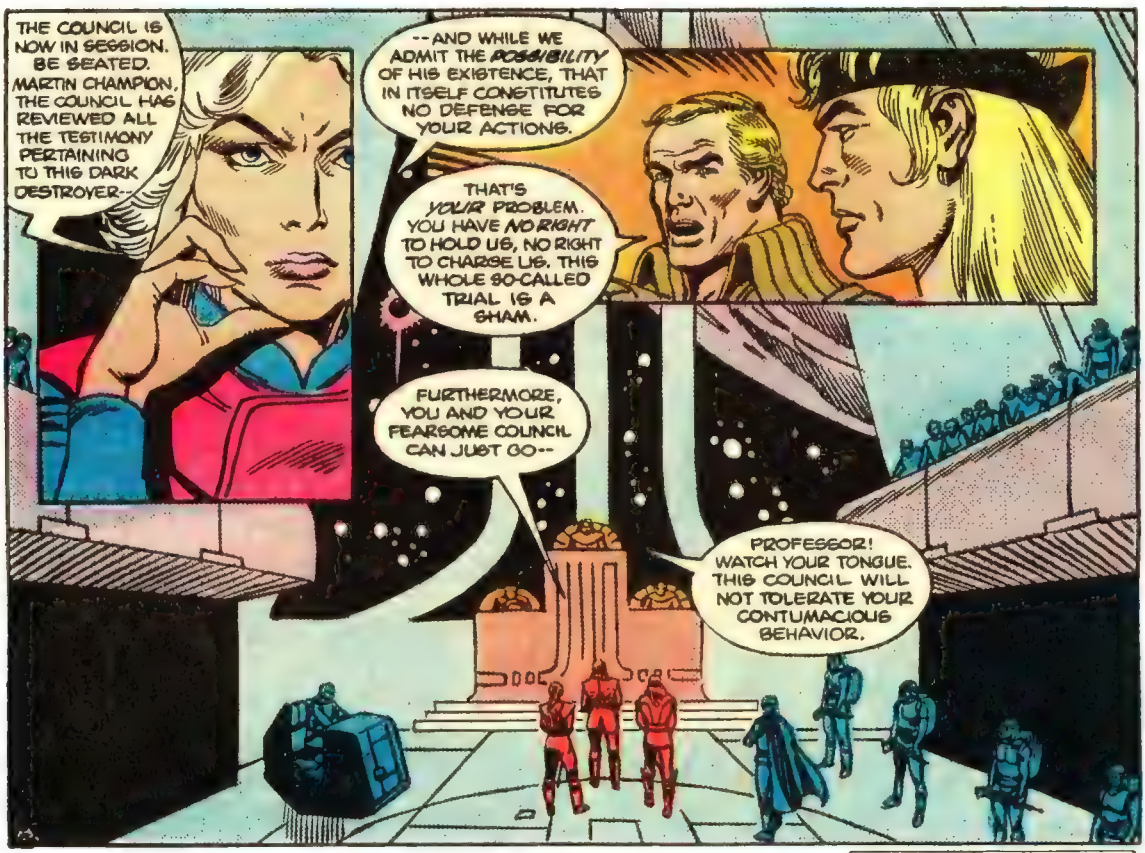
ABSOLUTELY.



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
WHO'S SNEAKING INTO MY CELL?
COME ON, KILRROI!
HEY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE! WHERE WE HEADED?
I HADDA ASK--!
HEY! WAIT UP, FELLAS! WAIT FOR YOUR OLD UNCLE PAKRAT!
HMM...LIGHT UP AHEAD. WONDER WHAT THE LITTLE TYKES HAVE BEEN UP TO?
ONE SURE BET-- HEE HEE HEE --BR'ER RIDENT WON'T LIKE IT! NOT ONE LITTLE...
WOW!
OKAY, I GIVE UP. WHAT ARE THEY PUTTING TOGETHER THIS TIME?
JUST A LIT'L HEH HEH HEH

ALTHOUGH MORPHEA, KARGO, AND BLACKJAK HAVE NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CHARGED, THEY ARE CONFINED TO QUARTERS FOR THE DURATION OF THE TRIAL...
YOU AGREE TO THIS?
YES.
THIS ONE REGRETS THE TRAUMA WE WILL CAUSE, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO ESTABLISH OUR FRIENDS' INNOCENCE.
MORPH'A! MORPH'A!
WHERE TAZ?
TAZ IS ON A SECRET MISSION. BUT WE SHOULD ALL BE TOGETHER AGAIN SOON.
PAKRAT, TOO?
YES.
AND BLACKJAK?
YES.
DART?
"YES, DART, TOO."
...REST...
SO WHO SAID LIFE WAS FAIR? AT LEAST I GOT BLACKJAK BACK. AND CHRIS. AH, WELL...NOTHING TO DO BUT SIT...
WHAT IS THIS? A VISION?
I HAVE SEEN THESE SHINING PAVILIONS BEFORE.





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How most mouths feel about Twizzlers.

"It's chewy and juicy and yummy and fruity. And that's all I have to say 'cause I'm going to eat my Twizzlers candy now."

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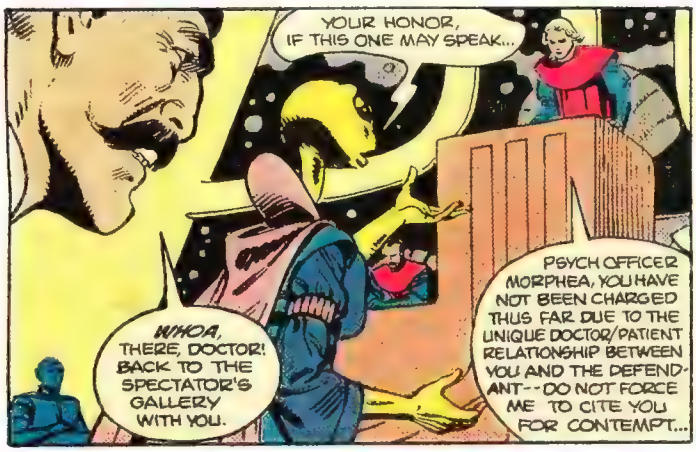
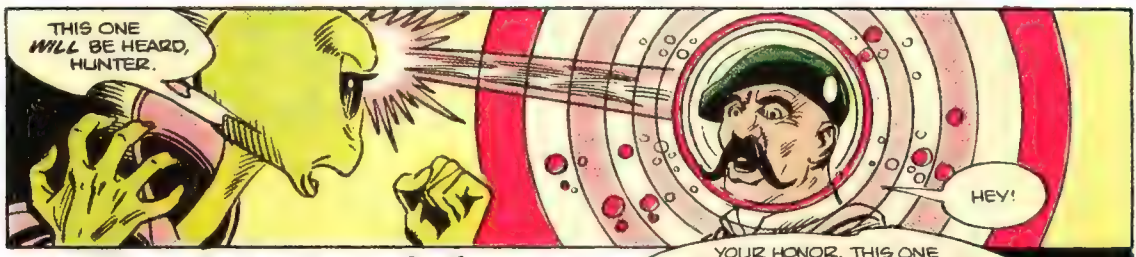
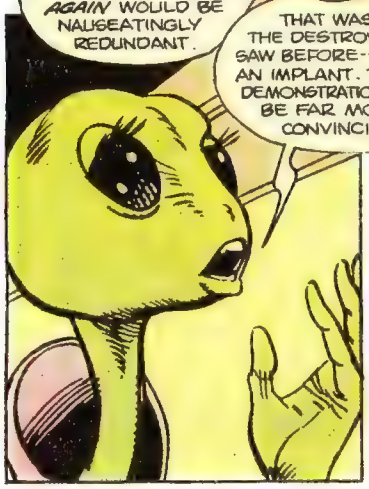

YOUR HONOR, IF THIS ONE MAY SPEAK...
WHOA, THERE, DOCTOR! BACK TO THE SPECTATOR'S GALLERY WITH YOU.
PSYCH OFFICER MORPHEA, YOU HAVE NOT BEEN CHARGED THUS FAR DUE TO THE UNIQUE DOCTOR/PATIENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOU AND THE DEFENDANT--DO NOT FORCE ME TO CITE YOU FOR CONTEMPT...

BUT...
LET'S MOVE IT, DOC!


THIS ONE WILL BE HEARD, HUNTER.
HEY!

YOUR HONOR, THIS ONE REGRETS THE DISCOURTESY, BUT THE COUNCIL COULD GRIND ON FOR WEEKS. WHAT THIS ONE WISHES TO SHOW SIMPLY WILL NOT WAIT.
WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT, DOCTOR?
THE DARK DESTROYER.


DOCTOR, WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN AN IMAGE OF THE DESTROYER--TO DO SO AGAIN WOULD BE NAUSEATINGLY REDUNDANT.
THAT WAS NOT THE DESTROYER YOU SAW BEFORE--THAT WAS AN IMPLANT. THIS ONE'S DEMONSTRATION SHOULD BE FAR MORE... CONVINCING.

UH--VERY WELL, YOU MAY PROCEED.
IT REQUIRES KARGG'S ASSISTANCE...

SHE'S TURNING THIS INTO A BLOODY THREE-RING CIRCUS!
NO...

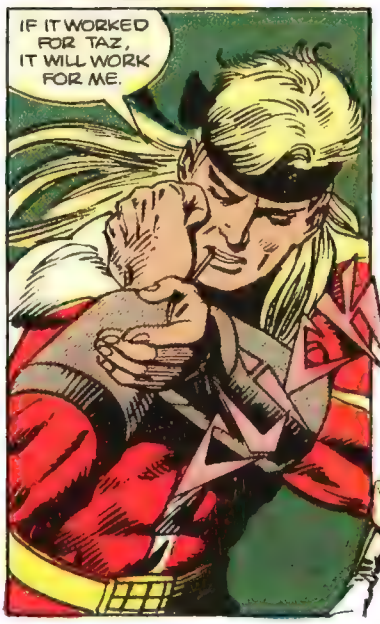
EH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NO"? RIDENT, YOU'VE BEEN ACTING DAMNED QUEER LATELY.
I HAVE SEEN THIS DEMONSTRATION BEFORE. IT IS TOO CONVINCING.
I CAN'T TAKE IT A SECOND TIME.
AND AS OFFICER RIDENT LEAVES THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NO ONE NOTICES THE ARRIVAL OF ANOTHER VISITOR...
...PEERING DOWN FROM A VENTILATION DUCT HIGH IN THE CEILING.
YOUR HONOR, KARGG WAS SHAPED BY THE DARK DESTROYER FROM A YOUNG AGE. ONLY RECENTLY, THIS ONE CLEARED THE LAST VESTIGES OF THE DESTROYER'S TERRIBLE CONTROL FROM KARGG'S MIND...
BUT THE DESTROYER STILL EXISTS AS A MEMORY WITHIN KARGG. WHEN THIS ONE MET THE DESTROYER AND BATTLED IT, IT WAS REAL. WE BOTH HAVE HAD FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE...
CONTINUE.
THE POINT IS, YOUR HONOR...
SHE'S JUST WASTING THE COUNCIL'S TIME.
THE POINT IS --THIS ONE SUSPECTS THE DESTROYER LIVES OFF THE BELIEFS OF ITS FOLLOWERS--AND SINCE IN ITS NATURAL STATE IT IS POWERFULLY TELEPATHIC--
--BY POOLING OUR MEMORIES AND USING THIS ONE'S SPECIAL ABILITY TO LINK MINDS, WE CAN BRING THE DARK DESTROYER MOMENTARILY TO LIFE.
THERE WILL BE SOME DANGER.

JUSTICE TOVAH -- I REALLY MUST OBJECT. THIS IS GROTESQUE!
NEVERTHELESS, WE SHALL HEAR THEM OUT. OFFICER MORPHEA, YOU MAY PROCEED.
JAMIESON'S RIGHT! YOU CALL THIS A COUNCIL? HA!
REMEMBER -- THE DESTROYER'S PRESENCE DEPENDS ON THIS ONE'S CONCENTRATION. PLEASE--ALL SIT QUIETLY.
DO NOT PANIC NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS. DO NOT DRAW WEAPONS.
THROUGHOUT THE PACKED GALLERY, ALL EYES ARE ON MORPHEA...
...ALL EYES, SAVE...
WHAT THE--?
AH... FAVORS FROM ABOVE!
MINUTES STRETCH ON...
BLOODY WASTE OF TIME.
I HEARTILY CONCUR.

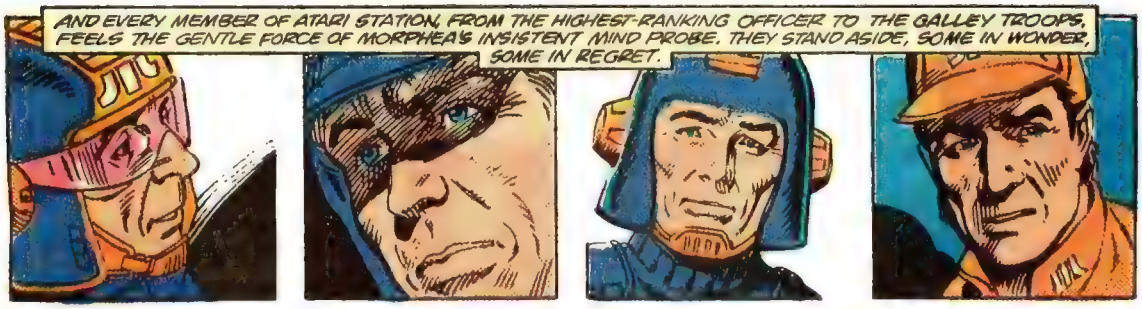
THEN--
HATED, MINUSCULE, INSIGNIFICANT FLESH! I AM NOT YOUR TOY TO BE TROTTED FORTH ON EXHIBIT!
DO YOU YET LIVE, MARTIN CHAMPION? THEN SO MUST I!
PLEASE! MORPHEA-- MAKE IT GO AWAY!
MAKE IT GO AWAY!
YOU OKAY, DAD?
I'M HOLDING...

THE COUNCIL ADMITS, MARTIN CHAMPION, THAT WHAT WE HAVE SEEN CONSTITUTES REAL EVIDENCE, BUT IF EVERYTHING YOU HAVE SAID IS TRUE...WHY DIDN'T THIS FIEND DESTROY OUR UNIVERSE WHEN IT HAD THE CHANCE?

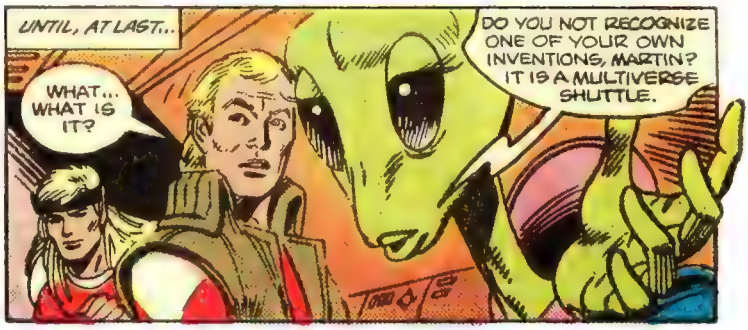
JUSTICE--I CAN ONLY GUESS. THE DESTROYER WAS CONSUMED BY HIS LUST FOR REVENGE AGAINST ME. I--AND THE ORIGINAL CREW OF SCANNER ONE--DEFEATED HIM ONCE BEFORE, A LONG TIME AGO.

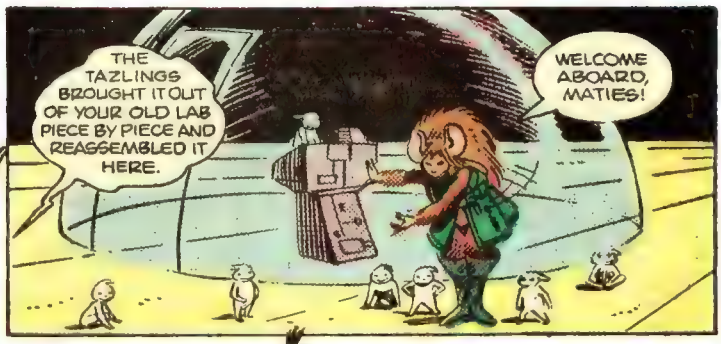


FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, TEMPEST, NOW FREED FROM THE CUFFS' PARALYZING EFFECTS, TRAILS HIS PHASING POWER THROUGH THE CUFFS RESTRAINING HIS TEAMMATES.
CHOMK
HEY, TEMPEST! DON'T FORGET YOUR OLD BUDDY BLACKJAK!
WE'RE LEAVING. WE WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS WORLD.
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, YOU LOT!
CHRIS--!
I WAS HOPING YOU'D TRY TO STOP US, HUNTER!
UGH!
NOW LET THIS ONE LEAD THE WAY. NO ONE SHALL STOP US. NO ONE SHALL HARM US. AND WE WILL HARM NO ONE.

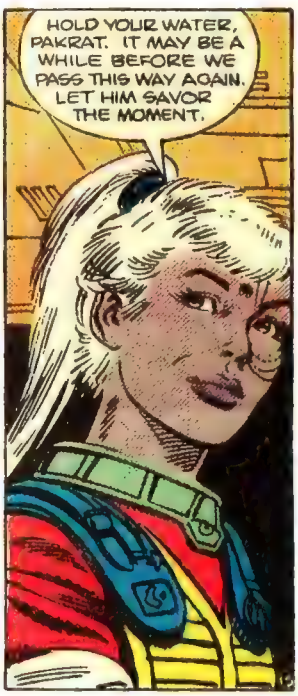

AND EVERY MEMBER OF ATARI STATION, FROM THE HIGHEST-RANKING OFFICER TO THE GALLEY TROOPS, FEELS THE GENTLE FORCE OF MORPHEA'S INSISTENT MIND PROBE. THEY STAND ASIDE, SOME IN WONDER, SOME IN REGRET.

WHAT ONCE WAS THE ATARI FORCE WALKS OUT OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.
THIS WAY, MY FRIENDS. TAZ AND PAKRAT ARE WAITING.


UNTIL, AT LAST...
WHAT... WHAT IS IT?
DO YOU NOT RECOGNIZE ONE OF YOUR OWN INVENTIONS, MARTIN? IT IS A MULTIVERSE SHUTTLE.


THE TAZLINGS BROUGHT IT OUT OF YOUR OLD LAB PIECE BY PIECE AND REASSEMBLED IT HERE.
WELCOME ABOARD, MATIES!

WELL, WELL, WELL... LET'S SEE THE COUNCIL TRY TO STICK ME WITH THE BILL FOR THIS ONE!
HEY, MARTY-- COME ON! LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!

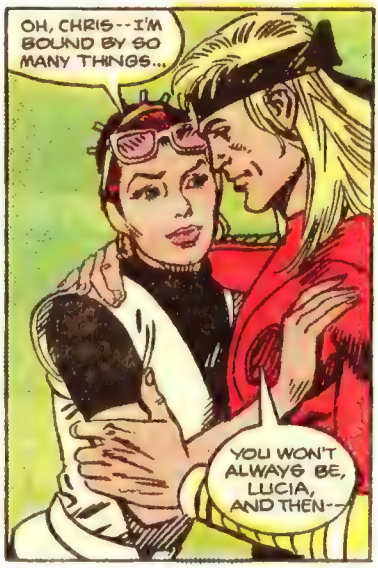

HOLD YOUR WATER, PAKRAT. IT MAY BE A WHILE BEFORE WE PASS THIS WAY AGAIN. LET HIM SAVOR THE MOMENT.

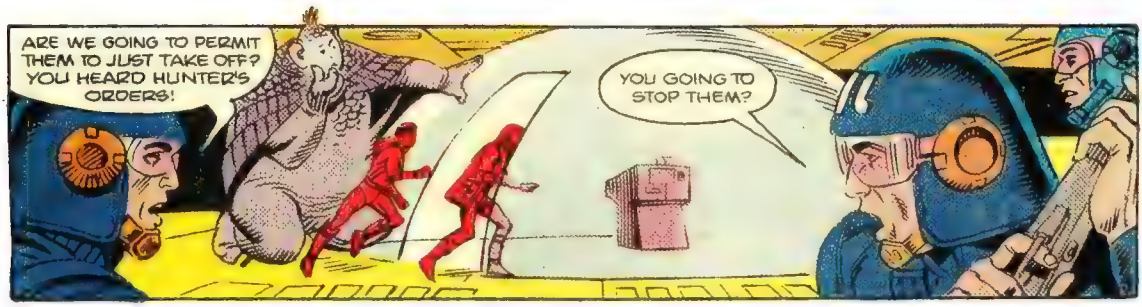
WELL, DAD, WHAT NEXT? WE JUST RAN OUT OF SCRIPT.

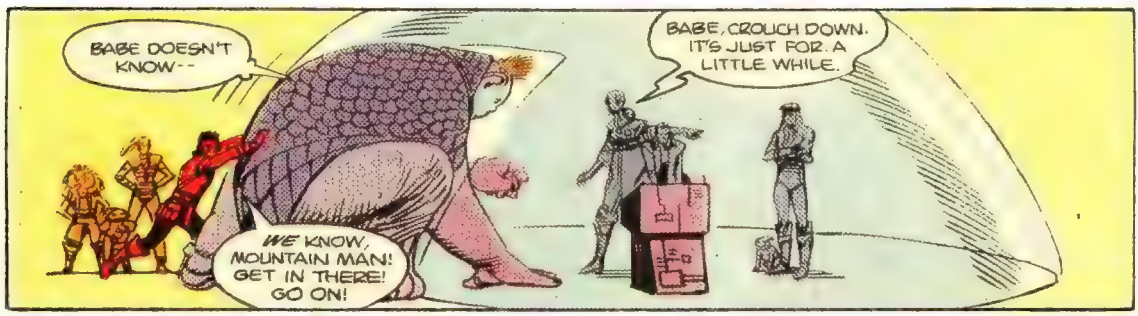
SON, I HAVE A VISION... NEW EARTH MAY HAVE LET US DOWN, BUT WE'RE STILL TOGETHER.

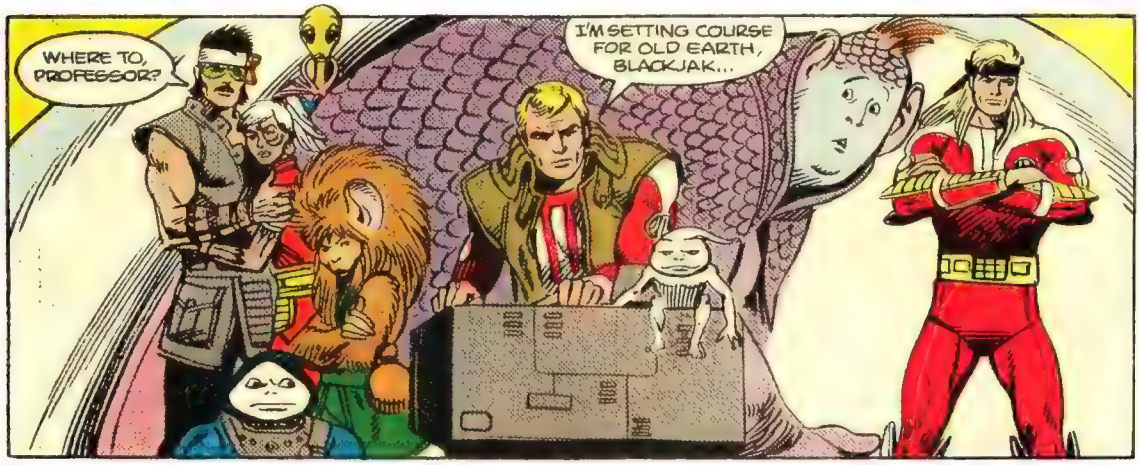
"ALL OF US -- BLACKJAK, DART, MORPHEA, BABE, PAKRAT, TAZ, THE TAZLINGS, HUKKA -- WE'LL START OVER. WE'LL BUILD A RESEARCH STATION TRUE TO THE PRINCIPLES UNDER WHICH NEW EARTH WAS FOUNDED."

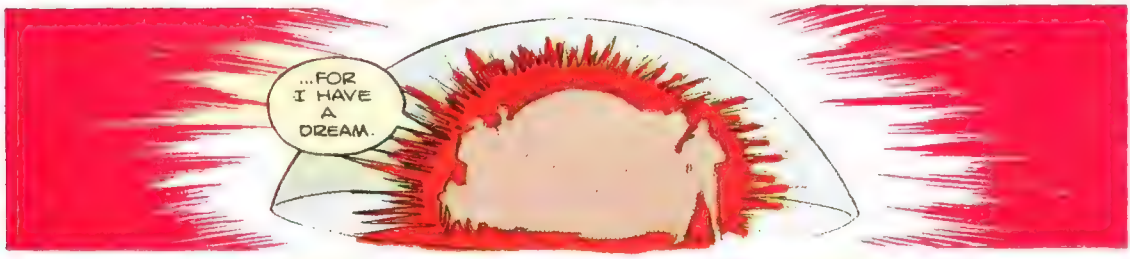
AND YOU TWO, MY DEAR FRIENDS, WILL YOU JOIN US?

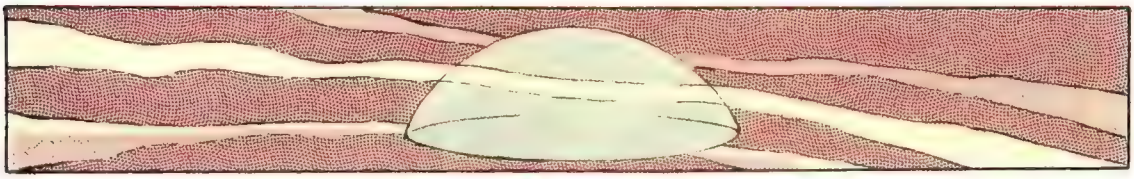



ARE WE GOING TO PERMIT THEM TO JUST TAKE OFF? YOU HEARD HUNTER'S ORDERS!
YOU GOING TO STOP THEM?


BABE DOESN'T KNOW--
BABE, CROUCH DOWN. IT'S JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
WE KNOW, MOUNTAIN MAN! GET IN THERE! GO ON!


WHERE TO, PROFESSOR?
I'M SETTING COURSE FOR OLD EARTH, BLACKJAK...


...FOR I HAVE A DREAM.



THE END

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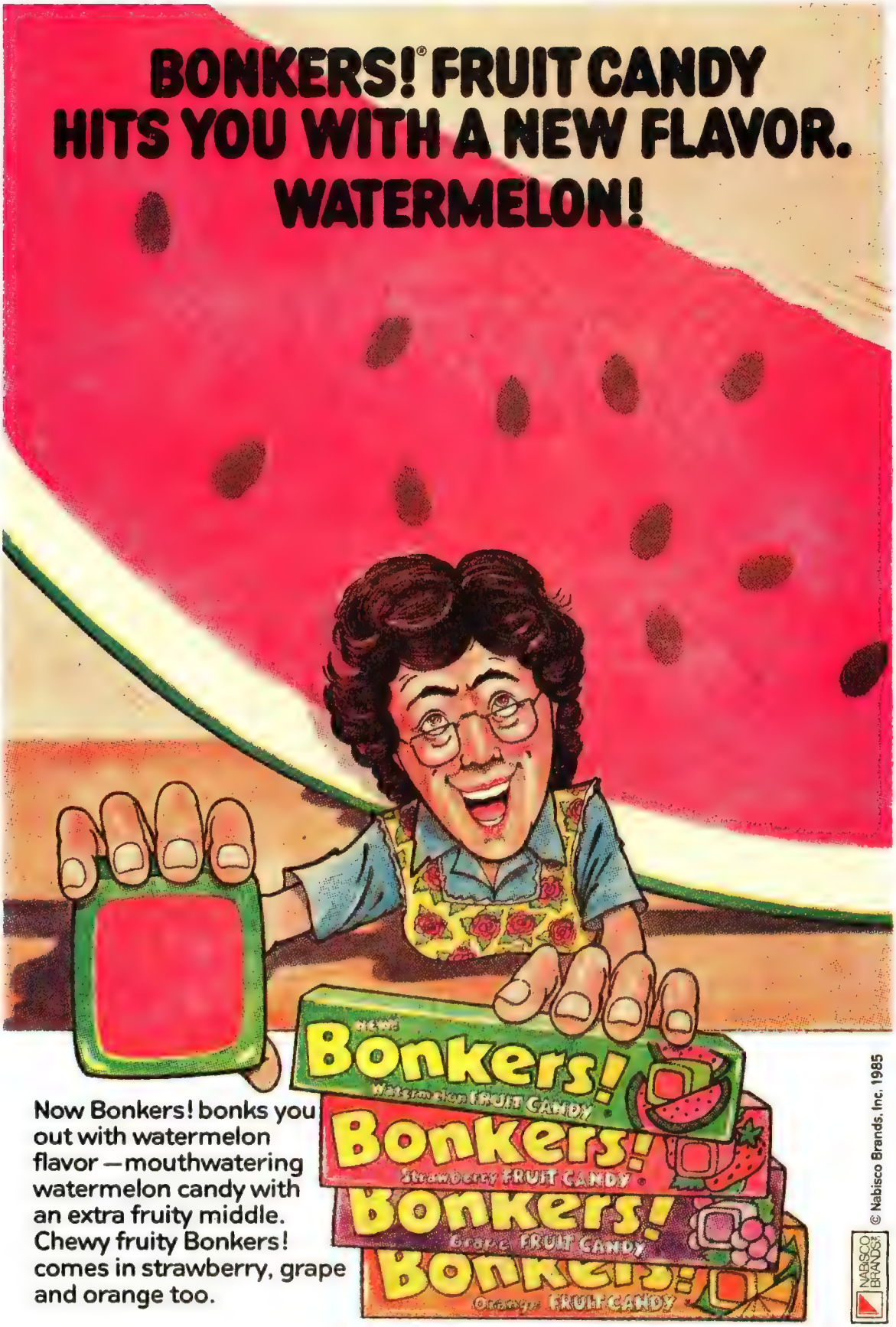

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HUKKA
KA-CHING KA-CHING KA-CHING
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KA-CHING KA-CHING
BOB!
HUKKA YEOW!!
CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER! CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER
HEY, SCAREDY-CAT...
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HIS NAME'S BOB.
BOB!
HUKKA BOB?
BOB!
HUKKA...
...HI.

HUKKA BITE?
OF COURSE HE DOESN'T BITE, YOU CLOWN! BUT LOOK WHAT HE DOES WHEN I PRESS THIS BUTTON...
HUKKA! HUKKA! HE'S MY MAN! HE CAN DO IT IF ANYONE CAN!
HA HA HA HA! I PROGRAMMED HIM TO SING THAT, YOU CHICKEN!
RELAX, HE'S ONLY A TOY!
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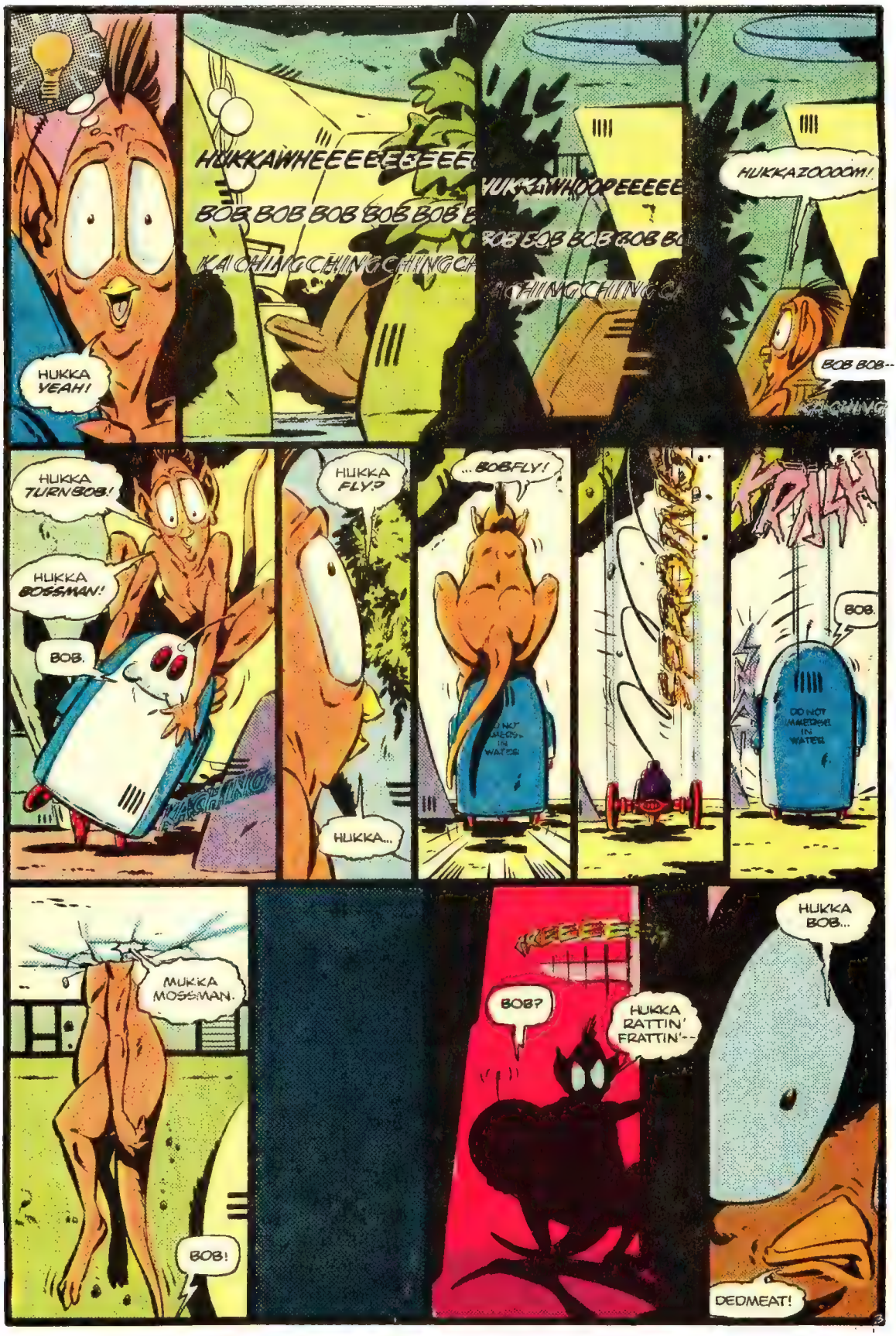
YOU TWO HAVE FUN AND PLAY NICE. I'M GOING TO STUDY NOW AND I MUSTN'T BE DISTURBED!
UNDERSTOOD?
BOB.
HUKKA CHRIS?
HUKKA...
STUDY CUBE ACTIVATED
KLANG
...WAIT.
BOB!
BOB.
BOB.
BOB.
BO
KA-CHING KA-CH
CLIK BOB.
CLIK BOB.
CLI BO
TAP TAP TAP
HUKKA..
BOBSTUCK?
BOB!
HUKKA BOB.
PALPERSON...


HUKKA YEAH!
HUKKAWHEEEEEEEEEE
BOB BOB BOB BOB BOB B
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HUKKAWHOOPEEEEEE
BOB BOB BOB BOB BO
HUKKAZOOOOM!
BOB BOB--
HUKKA TURNBOB!
HUKKA BOSSMAN!
BOB.
HUKKA FLY?
HUKKA...
...BOBFLY!
KRAK
BOB.
DO NOT MAKEBOBI IN WATER
MUKKA MOSSMAN.
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BOB?
HUKKA RATTIN' FRATTIN'--
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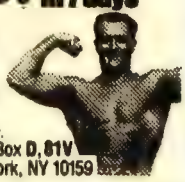

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MOOF
TAP TAP TAP
DING!
DING!
DING!
FWOOM
MOOF
FWOOM
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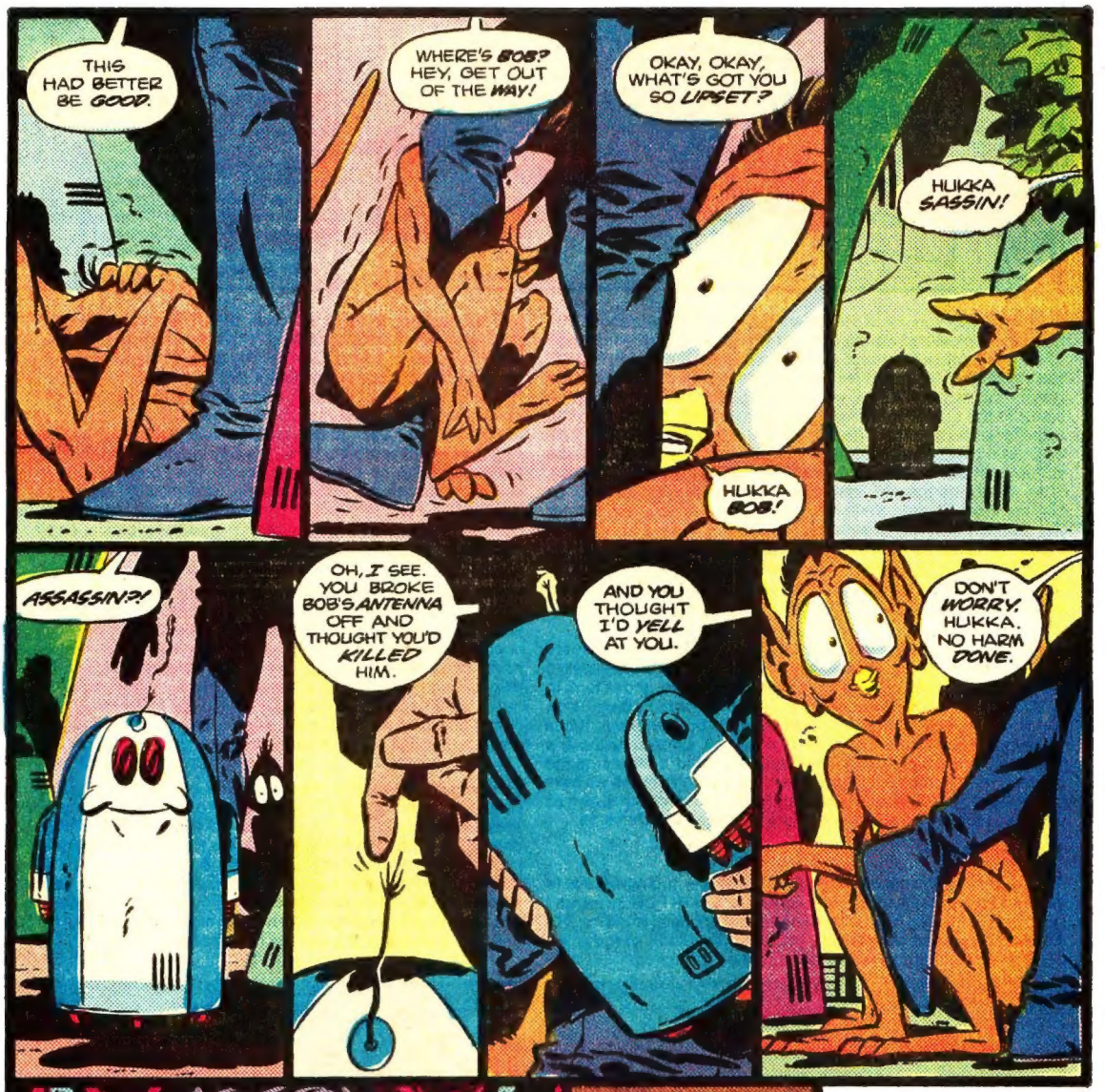

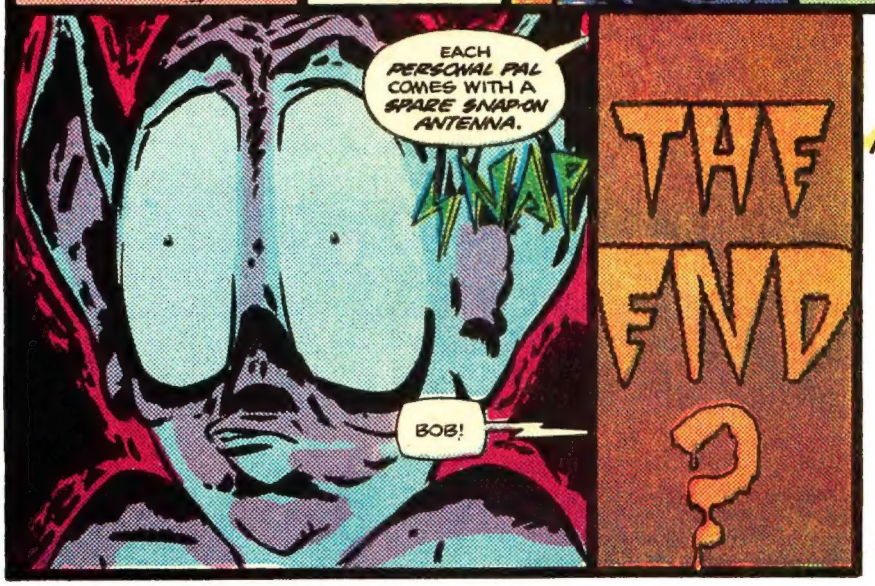

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FORCE FEEDBACK

L-2041

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There's no way you could not know what this editorial is about. The message is plastered on the cover. It's reasserted on the first page of the story. And it hits home on the last page of the ATARI FORCE feature story. Friends and readers, it's like the man Bob Lappan put down—this is THE END. For almost two years we've been using some of the brightest talents in the comic book business to put together an even score of (in this editor's opinion, at least) the most engrossing mainstream comics available today. It began with the writer/artist team of Gerry Conway and José Luis Garcia Lopez. Then, on to the present team of Mike Baron and Ed Barreto. Of course, inker Ricardo Villagran, colorist Tom Ziuko, and letterer Bob Lappan were there from the start, and remained through the transition to serve as a kind of creative glue between the two writer/artist teams. Everyone involved seemed to always do their best work on ATARI FORCE. Their commitment to the work was evident on every page.

On the back-up stories, we really let loose. The idea was always to have some fun, to allow some of the best talents in the business to take a look at the more humorous side of the Force, and in turn, to build each member of the group's character through the humor. Keith Giffen, Mike Chen, Marshall Rogers, Ed Hannigan, Klaus Janson, Dave Manak, and Bob Fleming all seemed to have a genuinely good time doing these back-ups, and it shows on the printed page. We can only hope that, through their efforts, we have managed to make the Hukka, Babe, Pakrat, and even Taz appear as human as any other humanoid character in the DC Universe.

But now it's over.

The reasons for the cancellation are numerous— too numerous to get into at any great length here. Sales for ATARI FORCE weren't exactly spectacular, but that in itself was not enough for the book to be canceled. It was comfortably settled in the middle of the line—comfortably enough to insure its continued existence.

No, the reason, truth to tell, was primarily a creative one. We decided awhile back that ATARI FORCE, as it now stood, would eventually run its course, and that by issue 20 there would be little more to be said about the characters as they now existed. That happens sometimes. It's as if, in the process of creating a work of fiction, you get to know your characters so well that you realize the logical thing for them to do would be to actually leave your story. And that was the problem here. The way the story was progressing, there would be no logical manner for the Force to resolve the situation other than by doing exactly what they did on page 17 of this issue's story. In effect, the Atari Force *canceled themselves*. Now, that certainly relieves a lot of the personal blame, and it's a convenient excuse besides, but it's true.

We kept on publishing issues of ATARI FORCE, knowing that the group was running toward a head-on collision with destiny. There was no other way to do it. And while we never meant to be deceptive about it, we didn't want to tell you in advance, 'cause that would have made ATARI FORCE an honest-to-goodness lame duck magazine. I guess you could accuse us of stringing you all along, but in the process we've managed to give you a complete, 20-issue comic novel, with a beginning, middle, and end. The *only* way we could have done *that* was to ultimately end the book.

I suspect, however, that this explanation won't satisfy the legion of fans we have picked up along the way. For them, we can only offer the gift of speculation—the ability to use their own imaginations to decide the course of future adventures for Martin Champion and company. We didn't kill anybody, didn't leave anyone behind, didn't usher the group off into some nameless limbo; whether the Force lives or dies will be entirely up to you. If you cared for the characters nearly as much as we here have, those stories are up there in your brains, swirling around, waiting to be born.

—ANDY HELFER

MEANWHILE...

The British are coming! The British are coming!

That's good news! For **DC** and its readers.

A few years ago, Joe Orlando and I crossed the "pond" to England to address a professional group of British cartoonists, acquaint them with **DC's** policies and rate structures, and tell them that we were anxious to establish an ongoing creative relationship with them. Our talk was well received and we came home feeling that our message had been heard and, at the very least, some long-lasting friendships had been established.

By the time Mike W. Barr's and British artist Brian Bolland's breathtaking, trend-setting maxi-series **CAMELOT 3000** was released, I was in charge of **DC's** editorial department and really glad that Brian had opted to throw in with us.

Since then, the trickle of talent from across the pond has become a flood. We have watched in awe as Alan Moore redefined **SWAMP THING**, cheered at the exciting new heights reached when Dave Gibbons drew **GREEN LANTERN**, breathed some fresh air with the absolutely unique art of Kevin O'Neill (who has popped up here and there, most notably in a recent issue of **OMEGA MEN**), and had a real blast reading that wonderful two-part **VIGILANTE** story set in New York but written by Alan Moore in the English countryside and illustrated by Jim Baikie, who resides in Scotland. (Jim, by the way, is currently drawing the origin of Brother Blood for a **TEEN TITANS SPECIAL.**)

To show her appreciation for jobs well done, President-Publisher Jenette Kahn recently took some 30 writers and artists to dinner in London when she went to England on business. The dinner was held at the Savoy Hotel, a posh locale of which Dave Gibbons commented, "I didn't think I was good enough to even walk in front of the building."

The dinner, everyone tells me, was a smashing success. Everyone had a good time and Jenette let everyone know that **DC** is still looking for new talent and new ideas. All I had to do was sit back and wait. Sure enough, in less time than it takes to say "British Airways," the proposals started washing up against my door. After digging my way through submissions, I was pleased to see a high level of quality ... at least equal to the level we get from my colleagues here in America. And so in the coming year, you will be seeing (at the very least) a graphic novel by Pat Mills and Kevin O'Neill with the working title **ARMAGEDDON;** an issue of the **DC CHALLENGE** penciled by the fast-drawing Dave Gibbons and inked by Mark Farmer; Vega tales in the back of **OMEGA MEN** by Steve Parkhouse, Alan Moore, and Kevin O'Neill; at least 12 issues of **BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS** by Alan Davis; and a very special maxi-series from Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons—one I mentioned in a previous column ... and still hush-hush.

When Editor Bob Greenberger was going to London for holiday in early January (see, I can speak like an Englishman), I asked him to meet with a number of the writers and artists to follow up on business we began doing by mail. When he returned, rested and bursting with good cheer, he made the following report:

"The British writers and artists are much like a fraternity. They gather regularly at a pub across the street from Forbidden Planet, the largest comics shop in the country. As is the local custom, they bought each other rounds of drinks and no one ever kept a tab. Despite a smoke-filled room, everyone gathered around a table and chatted away ... usually swapping tales about people not in the room.

"From what I can gather, most of these gents have grown up on **DC Comics** and working for us is a dream of sorts come true. For example, both Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons admitted an unending devotion to Tommy Tomorrow, a character who hasn't appeared in his own series in over 18 years! And every time one of them comes to America, they usually hover around Julie Schwartz's office, hoping for spare copies of his older titles, in order to complete their collections. Julie, I have learned, gets most of these guys to say yes to assignments by promising to give them hard-to-find back issues.

"On the first day, I had lunch with Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons, spending the afternoon discussing their maxi-series. Later we shared Indian food with Alan Davis, Mark Farmer, and Mike McMahon. All but Mike have been doing work for us, and try as I might, I couldn't wheedle a commitment out of Mike. He said when his current commitments are finished, he'll see what we have to offer. Meantime, Alan Davis explained that he has had to rethink his drawing because this is the first time he's working in full color from start to finish. Many of the British weekly comics use color sparingly and no story is ever completely in color. He's been coloring in photostats of his **BATO** pages just to get some idea of how his work will look.

"Mark is looking forward to his issue of **CHALLENGE** and is spending some of his free time illustrating children's books in England. Everyone is really very pleasant and relaxed about their jobs, without any of the seeming pressure felt by many of the creators back in the States.

"The next night I was treated to Indonesian cuisine by Nick Landau of Eagle Comics. We were joined by Brian Bolland, Steve Moore, Steve Parkhouse, Kevin O'Neill, and the always gregarious Dave Gibbons. Everything seemed to go all right until Nick handed me a plate and suggested I sample the squid. Yipe!

"Anyway, Steve Parkhouse explained that he had been completing assignments for the British comics publishers and was looking forward to doing a great deal of work for **DC.** In addition to a few **VEGA** stories, Steve will probably contribute ideas for graphic novels and one-shot tales. Steve Moore, on the other hand, has already submitted one maxi-series and one graphic novel proposal. He's **serious** about wanting to work with us. And Brian mentioned the night before that he has a hard time saying no.

"There were others I wanted to meet and speak with, but either there wasn't enough time or they were unavailable. From what I can gather, though, the people over there are more than eager to do work for us."

No more eager than I am to have them work for us, Bob. Thank you for the report, and I'm glad you had so much fun.

Hmm. Now that Bob and Jenette have been over there, I wonder when I get my turn to go to London and take these guys out?

Thank you and good afternoon.

Dick

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☐ **JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA 241:** A new costume for Vibe, Aquaman goes AWOL, and Amazo!

☐ **CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS 5:** In the wake of the Monitor's death, two worlds merge!

☐ **FURY OF FIRESTORM 38:** Will Prof. Stein be the Weasel's next victim?

☐ **ATARI FORCE™ 20:** The Force is on trial in the climactic final issue!

☐ **TALES OF THE TEEN TITANS 56:** The return of Jericho, Adeline's secret, and a new villain!

☐ **JONNI THUNDER 4:** Showdown in the Hollywood Bowl!

☐ **VIGILANTE 20:**: Nightwing guest stars, Vigilante is on the prowl, and Adrian Chase is very confused!

☐ **DEADMAN 4:** The Hook's trial unexpectedly leads to Deadman's twin brother!

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